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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/767,592

01/28/2004

Art Charen

CHAREN-PA-1

5212

7590

07/14/2006

Royal W. Craig
OBER & KALER
120 East Baltimore Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

EXAMINER

BLOUNT, ERIC

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2612

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/767,592

Applicant(s)

CHAREN ET AL.

Examiner

Eric M. Blount

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 April 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,5-8,11 and 13-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,5-8,11 and 13-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,5-8,11 and 13-18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 11, and 13-18 are currently pending in the present application.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Objections

3. The claims are objected to because the lines are crowded too closely together, making reading difficult. Substitute claims with lines one and one-half or double spaced on good quality paper are required. See 37 CFR 1.52(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1, 6-8, 11, 17, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kravitz in view of Appenzeller and further in view of March [U.S. Patent No. 6,034,605].

Regarding **claim 1**, Kravitz teaches a method for alerting security personnel and bystanders that a person is missing using a computer network including a plurality of reporting stations, and a registration station. The method comprises steps of

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- a. collecting registration information from a person at the registration station, the step of collecting comprising the substeps of :
 - i. photographing one or more images of a person using a camera (208)
 - ii. recording the images electronically, collecting and recording identifying information related to the person and a guardian or responsible person, and transferring the identifying information and the recorded images to a portable storage medium (column 1, line 64 – column 2, line 11). The method further comprises transferring the recorded images and identifying information to a system server on demand, processing and storing the recorded images and identifying information in a data file, and displaying the recorded image on a plurality of display monitors at multiple locations (column 2, lines 25-30 and column 3, lines 51-65). Kravitz teaches that a computer processes the information received from the portable storage device (column 4, lines 8-25).

Kravitz does not specifically teach that a powerhorn is associated with each reporting station. In an analogous art for notifying bystanders, Appenzeller discloses that it was well known in the art for loudspeakers (powerhorns) to be user for notifying bystander of particular events (column 1, lines 15-49). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant to modify the reporting stations taught by Kravitz to include loudspeakers to enhance the notification given by the reporting station. The loudspeaker (powerhorn) would alert bystanders of an event even if the bystander were not looking at the display.

Kravitz does not specifically disclose a step of obtaining a fingerprint of a person. In an analogous art, March discloses a method for alerting security personnel and bystanders that a person is missing, comprising the steps of obtaining a fingerprint of a person (column 2, lines 35-55), converting the fingerprint to a digital record (column 3, lines 40-52), and transferring the fingerprint record to a system server on demand (column 3, line 53 – column 4, line 11). March does not disclose that fingerprint information is transferred to a portable storage medium. However, Kravitz teaches the limitation of storing personal identification information on a portable storage medium and processing and storing the information in a data file. Neither Kravitz nor March specifically disclose generating an image in print format. One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant would have recognized that information including fingerprint records that were provided at a computer terminal for viewing could have been printed and or displayed. It would have been obvious to the skilled artisan to modify the invention of Kravitz to include the steps of using fingerprint records for identifying lost individuals. This would have been an obvious modification because it would take advantage of a person's unique fingerprint to positively identify the lost person. The use of a fingerprint would ensure that a lost person would be positively identified.

Neither of the references specifically discloses a plurality of registration stations. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant to provide a plurality of registration stations. It was well known in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant for a facility to include several security terminals. Usually a security terminal or checkpoint is located at each entrance/exit location. One of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that in a large facility it would be advantageous to

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provide several registration stations (particularly at entrance/exit locations) so that the system could be used regardless of where a user entered a secured facility. This would also minimize the amount of time associated in registering each user.

As for **claim 6**, Kravitz discloses a system for alerting security personnel and bystanders that a person is missing that comprises cameras (208) for photographing and recording one or more images of a person (204, 206), a portable storage medium (300), data handler software is an obvious part of the Kravitz invention (column 3, lines 12-23 and column 4, lines 21-26). The computer systems of Kravitz would obviously have to have software to interpret and use the data read from the portable storage medium. It is obvious that Kravitz has a server for communication between the users of the personal computers and a central database. Kravitz does not specifically disclose identification forms, a network protocol, and notification software. March disclose the use of personal identification forms (10) and broadcast of information over a network to a plurality of locations (column 1, lines 61-66). Please refer to the discussion of claim 1 above for further explanation of the plurality of reporting stations and registration stations. The aforementioned inventors meet and/or reasonably suggest all limitations set forth by the claim.

As for **claim 7**, Kravitz discloses a data collection module (506, 504, 512, 526), a database (508 or column 4, lines 21-26), and a data transfer module (514). As noted in claim 6, it is obvious that the system of Kravitz would include all appropriate software components and modules including data compression software (column 3, lines 12-23 and column 4, lines 21-26).

Regarding **claim 8**, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant that images would have been compressed into records of

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varying size. This limitation can be viewed as matter of design. One would obviously want to have a large photograph of a missing person's face so that security or bystanders could easily identify the lost person.

Regarding **claim 11**, each of the references teaches a method for alerting security personnel and bystanders that a person is missing. Each reference also, teaches that this system is advantageous in places such as a school, shopping mall, hospital, or police station. It is well known that all of these locations are equipped with public address systems. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by applicant to sound an alarm via a public address system and optionally a power horn when a person is lost. It was shown above that both Kravitz and Appenzeller teach notifying persons at multiple locations of a missing person. A skilled artisan would have recognized that notification using a public address system would have prepared bystanders to be more aware of their surroundings so as to help in locating the lost person. This limitation is viewed as matters of design.

Regarding **claims 17 and 18**, it was noted above that March obviously uses a network protocol. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant to provide a standard wireless protocol or wireless access point device. Both were well known and widely used in communication devices at the time of the invention by the applicant. These limitations can be viewed as a matter of design.

6. Claims 3, 5, 13, 14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kravitz in view of Appenzeller, in further view of March as applied to claim 1 above and further in view of Wills [GB 2293348 A].

As for **claim 3**, though it would have been an obvious modification, neither of the aforementioned references discloses a step of printing a label. In an analogous art, Wills discloses a step of printing a label when a person is missing (page 3, paragraph 2). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant to modify the invention of Kravitz to include a step of printing a label so that bystanders could recognize a missing person. The practice of printing ads, labels, posters, and flyers to inform the public of missing persons was well known in the art at the time of the present invention.

As for **claim 5**, Wills discloses that personal identification information needs to be updated periodically so information remains up-to-date (page 4, full paragraph 3). This would suggest that when using a smart card, information would be erased and updated. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that information would be erased from a portable storage medium so that information could be updated or so that the portable storage medium could be used for a different person.

Regarding **claims 13 and 14**, neither Kravitz, Appenzeller, nor March discloses a smart card reader. Wills discloses that it was known in the art for lost person notification systems to have personal identification information stored onto smart cards and readers for reading the information from the cards (page 3, full paragraph 2). It would have been to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant to modify the portable storage medium to include the well-known “smart” card for storing personal identification information to be read by a smart card reader. This would have been an obvious modification because smart cards are known for their low power characteristics and ease of use.

As for **claim 16**, Wills teaches the use of a label printer (page 3, full paragraph 2).

7. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kravitz in view of Appenzeller, in further view of March as applied to claim 6 above, and further in view of Rothschild [Pub No. US 2003/0097351 A1].

Regarding **claim 15**, neither Kravitz, Appenzeller, nor March disclose the use of a flash memory as a portable storage medium. In an analogous art, Rothschild discloses that a flash memory device can be used to store personal identification information (Figures 1 and 2, paragraph 7). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention by the applicant to modify the inventions of Kravitz, Appenzeller, and March to include the use of a flash memory device. This would have been an obvious modification because the flash memory device could easily operate with any personal computer equipped with a USB port for storing and retrieving information relating to the identification of a person.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

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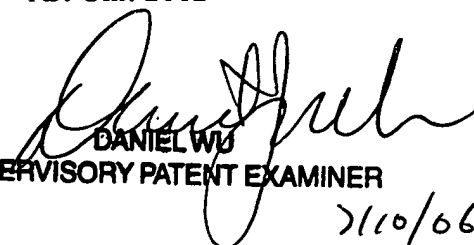
CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric M. Blount whose telephone number is (571) 272-2973. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Wu can be reached on (571) 272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Eric M. Blount
Examiner
Art Unit 2612


DANIEL WU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
7/10/06